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Morgett rated highest by attorneys

By Della Fichtel
Missourian staff writer

An overwhelming majority of the lawyers responding to a Columbia Missourian survey of the Boone County Bar Association rated Magistrate Judge Temple Morgett far above Prosecuting Attorney Milt Harper in all eight categories of judicial qualifications.

Harper and Morgett are opponents in the Nov. 7 election for Division I magistrate judge.

In response to the results, Harper attacked the members of the association and the Columbia Missourian. He criticized the newspaper for conducting the survey after the bar association had voted not to do so and for not requiring the respondents to sign their names to the ratings.

When he looked at the results for the first time

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Monday, Harper shook his head and said, "The most prosecuted and disbarred bar association in Missouri says I have no integrity."

Morgett said he was pleased the results showed him in a favorable light and said he was "proud to have the support of the local lawyers." He described the lawyers as "by and large men of integrity and good standing in the community."

The eight categories rated were integrity, moral courage and ability to maintain the

dignity of the judicial office; judicial temperament; legal ability; legal experience; freedom from influence by political considerations; compatible personal habits and conduct with judicial office; willingness to perform judicial duties promptly and industriously; and courtesy.

There were five ratings possible in each category: superior, above average, average, below average and poor.

Among the findings in the survey:

✓ There was no apparent correlation between the ratings and political affiliation, which was determined by a self-classification of the respondents. In several categories, the candidates were rated more severely by members of their own party than by the opposition or independents.

For instance, a larger percentage of Republicans rated Harper's integrity poor and below average than Democrats. Harper is Republican.

✓ Morgett received positive ratings from more than 90 percent of the respondents in five of the eight categories.

✓ Morgett received no negative ratings in six areas.

✓ Harper was rated positively by more than 50 percent in only one category.

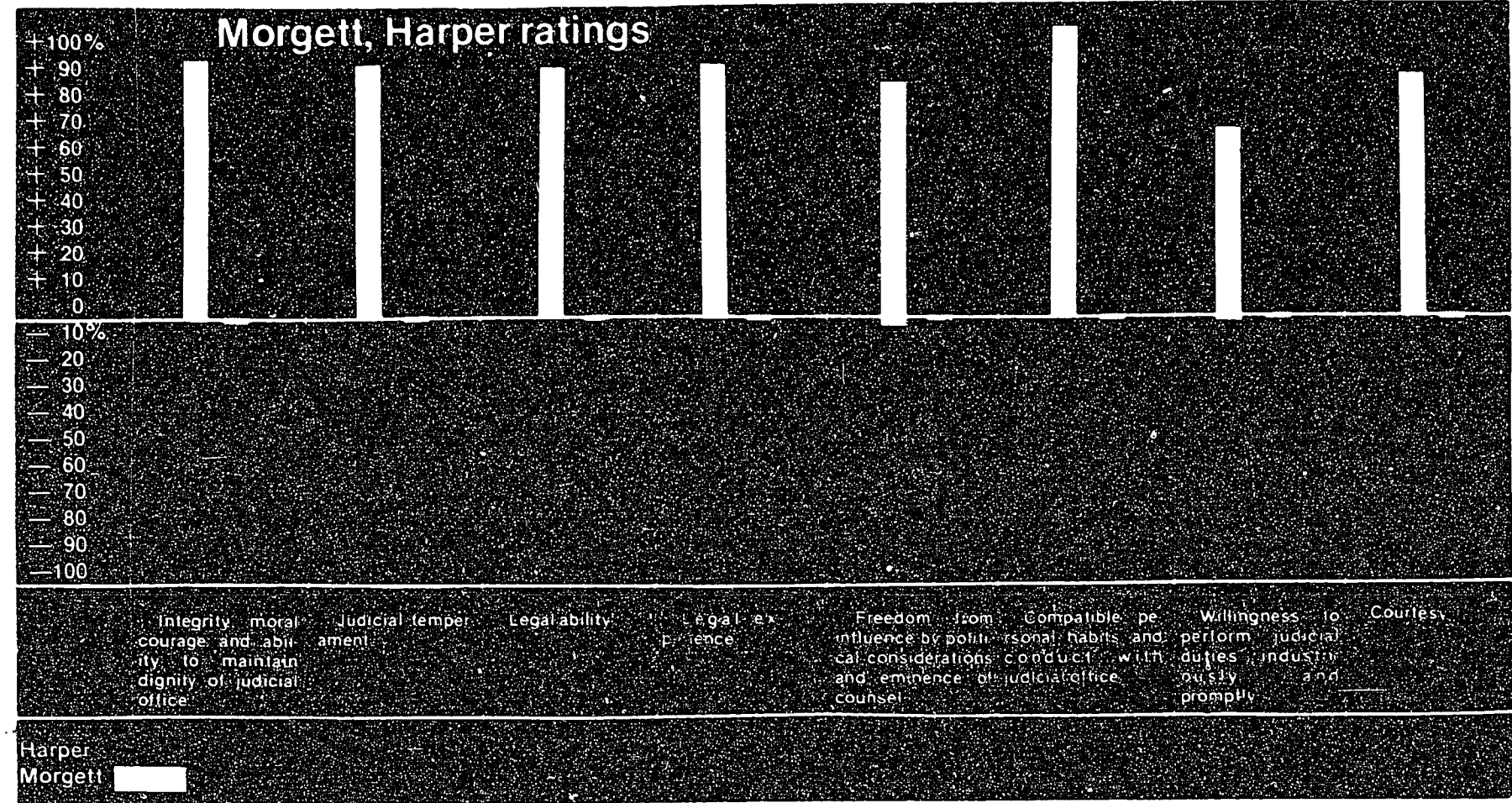
✓ Harper received negative ratings of more than 50 percent in four of the categories.

✓ Forty-four percent of the respondents rated Harper's legal ability average and 35 percent rated his legal experience average. Morgett received a 54 percent superior rating for his legal ability and 83 percent rating for his legal experience.

✓ Morgett's average score from his peers was 4.5 on a 5-point scale with 5 being superior. Harper's average was 2.86.

In addition to rating the candidates and listing their political affiliation, the lawyers were asked to indicate whether they had sufficient professional knowledge of the candidates to rate

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Harper attacks survey, lawyers

By Della Fichtel
Missourian staff writer

Prosecuting Attorney Milt Harper, the Republican candidate for Division I magistrate judge, Tuesday responded to a Columbia Missourian survey of the Boone County Bar Association by bitterly criticizing the newspaper and attacking the integrity of the lawyers who responded to the questionnaire.

Harper held a news conference Tuesday morning and released a partial report of the results to the local media. The Missourian had given him the report Monday and asked him for his comments.

His opponent, Magistrate Judge Temple Morgett, said he was pleased with the results and praised the local lawyers as "men who have earned positions of leadership and respect in the community."

Harper was especially critical of the lawyers who participated in the survey because the bar association voted last

month not to conduct its own survey on the candidates. He responded by attacking them.

"With the problems of criminality and disbarment that have plagued Boone County lawyers in recent years, I would hope that they would look inward at their own problems instead of trying to tell the public what to do. It is a sad observation that Boone County lawyers are notorious throughout this state for their own internal problems," he said.

Morgett disagreed with Harper's assessment of the local lawyers' integrity and public image.

"The Boone County bar is one of the strongest in the state of Missouri," he said. "They are just as able as men you can find anywhere in the United States," he added.

Harper attacked the validity of the survey results because two-thirds of the bar association did not respond. He further said "it is factually false that

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Justice centers—an alternative to clogged courts

© Washington Star

ATLANTA — Three weeks ago, when he discovered another man was visiting his estranged wife, he was mad enough to try to batter down her locked door. Then he poured sugar into the gas tank of her '74 Mustang.

She was mad enough to hit him with a charge of criminal destruction of property.

But then she discovered the frustrating part. To make sure he paid for fixing the door and the \$33 car repair bill, she'd have to go through the hassle and expense (on her salary as a nurse) of having him convicted, a procedure that would take several weeks in small claims court.

Someone at the Fulton County Courthouse referred them both to the experimental neighborhood justice center.

There, in the nearly barren living room of an old house, they sat for 50 minutes the other morning while a total stranger — wearing a plaid sport coat instead of a black robe — scribbled out an agreement. Damages would be paid and charges would be dropped, and that appeared to settle the incident cheaply and conveniently for them and for the clogged courts downtown.

The idea of using lay volunteers to mediate minor disputes isn't new in judicial reform circles. There have been other local ex-

periments with storefront mediation.

What's new is that the Justice Department itself is funding pilot neighborhood justice centers here, in Kansas City and in Los Angeles

Insight

as a top priority initiative of Attorney General Griffin Bell.

As tailored by its sponsor, Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., the bill provides \$80 million in grants over four years to such alternatives to traditional courtrooms, plus \$15 million over five years to establish a national resource

center on these experiments.

Not surprisingly, perhaps, the search for alternatives to the nation's judges is a personal crusade for Bell, the first judge (U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals) to head the Justice Department in this century. Bell had advocated such experiments as chairman of the American Bar Association's committee on the resolution of minor disputes.

One of his first acts in Washington last year was to create an Office for Improvements in the Administration of Justice, headed by an assistant attorney general, Daniel J. Meador.

One of that shop's first acts was to commission a Law Enforcement Assistance Ad-

ministration study of previous mediation experiments and develop the model for the pilot neighborhood justice centers that opened eight months ago. LEAA provides each with a budget of about \$200,000 for 18 months, with \$350,000 more for a research outfit's evaluation of the program successes and failures.

What is surprising, in light of Southerners' historic resentment of Washington efforts to change local institutions, is that Atlantian Bell and his deputy Meador, an Alabamian who taught federal court operations at the University of Virginia Law School, both advocate

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Police round up cows in residential area

By Carol Brungraber
Missourian staff writer

City policemen found themselves involved in a cattle roundup late Halloween in a residential area of Columbia.

The 31 head of cattle, which came from Diggs Packing Co., 1107 Hinkson Ave., caused confusion in what was believed to be a Halloween prank.

Lloyd Reed, 618 Paris Court, an employee of the company, said he was driving past the building about 9 p.m. Tuesday when he discovered the cattle on Wilkes Boulevard. Reed called the incident an unfortunate accident. "At

first it looked like about 50 or 60 (head)," he said.

Altogether about 22 cows crossed Tandy Avenue and entered a field near Wilkes Boulevard where police helped company employees round them up.

Sgt. Larry Duncan was one of the policemen involved in the roundup.

"Basically the cattle were very cooperative, and they only got out of hand when they crossed Tandy," Duncan said.

Police reported no accidents. "It turned out the cars were causing the problem, not the cows," Duncan said. They just became "spooked" as drivers started blowing their horns, he said.

In town today

7:30 p.m. "Finian's Rainbow," University Theater, Fine Arts Building.
7:30 p.m. "West Side Story," Rock Bridge High School gymnasium.
8 p.m. "The Sound of Music," MSA Broadway Play, Jesse Auditorium.

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Iranian troops guard oil fields

TEHRAN, Iran (UPI) — The government Tuesday alerted its troops against possible sabotage in the southern Iranian oil fields where a series of wildcat strikes had shut down production of the \$20 billion a year oil industry, the official Pars news agency reported.

Pars said martial law authorities took charge of parts of the world's largest integrated oil refinery at Abadan with the help of a number of staff who are not on strike, the official agency reported. It did not give details.

The military move came amid mounting violence in Iran. Forty-one people were reported killed in fighting Monday, including 15 fatalities in a Wild West-style horseback raid by 2,000 armed tribesmen on opponents of the shah in the western Iranian town of Paveh.

Renewed fighting between demonstrators and government troops also

broke out Tuesday in the Kurdish town of Sanandaj in western Iran, killing 11 people and injuring 64 others, official reports said.

The state-run news agency said the troops acted after the government received reports that "saboteurs have threatened to damage oil installations in Khuzestan and to disrupt the oil industry."

"Military forces are on the alert near the installations to prevent any incidents," Pars said. "The supply and distribution of oil are normal," the agency said, but did not elaborate. There was no indication if the statement meant the strike that had shut the fields since Monday had collapsed.

The National Iranian Oil Company's chairman, Houshang Ansary, met with the striking workers and staff of the refinery, apparently without any decision to end the strike, which Prime

Minister Jaafar Sharif-Emami condemned as an "act of treason."

As the strike cut away at Iran's \$22 billion annual oil revenues at a rate of \$60 million a day, its impact on the consumers in the West and Japan was not immediately known.

The government appeared considering full-scale military intervention to run the multi-phased operations from the oil wells down to the loading of international supertankers at the Kharg Island jetties in the Persian Gulf.

Two major petrochemical complexes at Bandar Shapur and Bid Boland were idle, shutting off natural gas exports to the Soviet Union.

Iranian newspapers Tuesday reported 2,000 armed tribesmen hired by Salar Jaf, a member of parliament loyal to the shah, invaded the town of Paveh in west Iran Monday night on horseback and in trucks.

Health FDA approves arthritis drug

NEW YORK (UPI) — One dose of a new drug for major arthritic ills that affect 30 million Americans packs the anti-inflammatory power of up to eight aspirin — but with fewer side effects, scientists reported Tuesday.

Sulindac, the drug introduced Tuesday, has the trade name "Clinoril" and has just been approved for use in the United States by the Food and Drug Administration.

It was discovered and developed over a 12-year period by researchers at Merck Sharp & Dohme Research Laboratories in West Point, Pa.

"Clinoril appears to work in an

interesting way in the body and has longer-lasting action than aspirin. We hope it will be a major advance that will bring real benefit to a much broader range of patients," said Dr. Lewis H. Sarett, Merck's senior vice president for science and technology, who synthesized cortisone 30 years ago.

Arthritis means inflammation of a joint. The rheumatic disease, the nation's leading chronic disorder, includes more than 100 different conditions involving the joints and connective tissues. Inflammation is not present in all. There is no cure for

the chronic forms such as rheumatoid. As with all drugs, Clinoril is not without side effects for all patients.

"In the clinical studies, it was found that Clinoril caused headache, dizziness or nervousness in some patients," the Merck scientists reported.

Rash and itching were noted in some patients and a hypersensitivity reaction occurred occasionally. The most frequent side effect was gastrointestinal pain, which occurred in 10.2 percent of patients, compared with 19.4 percent for aspirin, the scientists said.

High cost of care called 'waste'

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The cost of health care is skyrocketing because of waste, over-medication and unnecessary hospitalization, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce charged Tuesday.

The group — which has opposed President Carter's efforts to clamp a lid on hospital costs — announced a campaign to encourage local communities to crack down on medical costs.

It said the price of health care is rising at twice the rate of wages.

The chamber campaign will urge: ✓ Closer screening of patients to

determine if hospitalization is necessary.

✓ Consumer education in the area of health, with emphasis on patient-physician communication.

✓ "Action plans" to direct businesses in the local-level fight against health care costs.

"I don't know how we as physicians have managed to convince the American people that more medical care means better health," said Dr. Paul Ellwood, Minneapolis, who headed the study on which the campaign is based.

Ellwood said there is dramatic evidence that "more hospitalization won't produce more health, and less hospitalization certainly won't produce less health."

The doctor praised a trend by hospitals to compete with each other on the basis of price. But he said government moves to limit minimum prices threaten the effort.

Ellwood told reporters the trend is welcome because hospitals traditionally viewed doctors — not patients — as their customers. That attitude must change, he said.